

DIVISION OF GENERAL SERVICES

THE PROCUREMENT REPORT



Volume I, Issue I

September 2013

Upcoming Training

10/14, Juneau:

- ♦ Small Procurements
- ♦ ITBs

10/23, Anchorage:

- ♦ Small Procurements
- ♦ Ethics

Register online at
TrainAlaska

Welcome

Welcome to the first issue of The Procurement Report, a monthly newsletter from the Purchasing Section of the Division of General Services. The main goal of this newsletter is to keep procurement staff in all agencies up-to-date on important statewide changes to contracts and policy, but it will also include other procurement-related information we hope you will find useful. If you have any comments, questions, or suggestions on other content you'd like to see, please feel free to contact us at doa.dgs.newsletter@alaska.gov.

Updates

CPO Corner

When Senate Bill 12 (SB12) took effect in June, the small procurement threshold was increased from \$50,000 to \$100,000.

While this did not affect the small procurement competition levels set out in regulations, it *did* increase the threshold for agencies to approve single source and limited competition RAPs within their own authority to \$100,000.

This is because these limitations are set out in the blanket [delegation of authority](#) and are tied specifically to the statutory authority.

Changes to regulations are in process that would modify the small procurement thresholds set there. Stay tuned!

⇒ DGS Procurement training is picking back up, but we are taking a different approach to scheduling: rather than booking classes in 6-month blocks, we are scheduling them 30-45 days out. We will still be offering the full range of classes, you just won't need to worry about adjusting your calendar as classes booked far in advance are rescheduled.

⇒ The [preferences guide](#) has been revised to include changes made in SB12 and can be found on the [Purchasing Documents & Forms](#) page.

⇒ The procurement regulations update draft phase has been finalized and we are aiming to begin the public notice process soon, with changes effective by the end of the year.

⇒ Ross Alexander started working as a Contracting Officer I with DGS in August. He recently moved to Juneau from South Dakota, where he managed federal contracts for a large roofing company.

⇒ Linda Polk begins working as a Contracting Officer III on September 23rd. She is coming to DGS from the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education.

⇒ DGS signed WSCA/NASPO PA's with OfficeMax for [Office Supplies/Toner](#) and Snap On Industrial for [Small Hand & Power Tools and Accessories](#).

⇒ Solicitations for ATVs/snowmachines and plumbing services are on the horizon.

Question of the Month

Can I hire a speaker to conduct a training under the guest speaker exemption granted in AS 36.30.850(b)(21)?

In short, no. Although the exemption mentions "guest speakers or performers for an educational or cultural activity," the guidance provided under PIM #54 notes that there is a distinction between speaking and conducting a training. An individual chosen to speak at an event may fall under this exemption, but not if that individual is also going to be facilitating meetings or teaching a specific skill. However, this may vary on a case-by-case basis.

We always recommend double-checking with DGS before awarding a contract under one of the exemptions listed in AS 36.30.850(b).